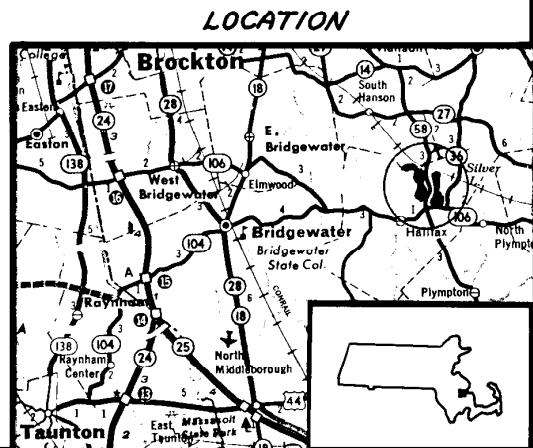


MONPONSETT LAKES

HALIFAX

Area = 528 Ac.

NOT TO BE USED FOR NAVIGATIONAL PURPOSES



MONPONSETT LAKES

(Halifax)

General Information:

This is a relatively large system consisting of two basins: east and west. Route 58 runs between the two basins, which are connected by a small culvert at their southern ends. The eastern basin is 246 acres, the western 282 acres. Both basins are infertile, transparent to about six feet, have an average depth of seven feet and a maximum depth of 13 feet. The bottom is a mixture of sand and rubble. Emergent vegetation covers approximately 20% of the surface area of both basins.

The eastern basin has three and a half miles of shoreline, about a third of which is developed with year round homes. The western basin has a little over four miles of shoreline, about a fifth of which has been lost to residential development.

Access to the eastern basin is a paved launching ramp off Holmes Street, which is suitable for trailer boats. Access to the western basin is an unpaved ramp off Gingan Street.

The lakes were reclaimed in 1959.

Fish Populations:

The fish populations were most recently sampled in June of 1980. Nine species were observed in the western basin. Listed in order of abundance they were white perch, yellow perch, pumpkinseed, bluegill, largemouth bass, black crappie, golden shiner, brown bullhead and white sucker. The eastern basin displayed a similar complex, except that chain pickerel were also observed. This species is undoubtedly in both basins. The eastern basin was dominated by white and yellow perch, the western by bluegills and pumpkinseeds.

Fishing:

Sampling indicates an adequate stock density of largemouth bass in the eastern basin, but a scarcity of quality fish 12 inches or better in the western basin. Yellow perch in both basins were generally eight inches or less. Data indicates that this system may be acidifying, and fishing may deteriorate. For now, however, panfishing action is good despite the small average size of the fish, and bass fishing is good in the eastern basin.

There is also the possibility of catching a big tiger muskie from this system. A thousand of these hybrid fish were stocked here in 1988, and survivors would now be in the 10-pound or better range.

March 1993